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| Form PTO-1449<br>U.S. Department of<br>Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office<br><br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT<br>IN AN APPLICATION<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket No.<br>3005-55      | Serial No.<br>10/771,962      |
|   | Applicant Y. MUTOH, ET AL. |                               |
|   | Filing Date<br>02/04/2004  | Group Art<br>Unit:<br>Unknown |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING<br>DATE<br>IF<br>APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------------|
|                      | A |                 |      |      |       |          |                                     |
|                      | B |                 |      |      |       |          |                                     |
|                      | C |                 |      |      |       |          |                                     |
|                      | D |                 |      |      |       |          |                                     |
|                      | E |                 |      |      |       |          |                                     |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|               |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY                    | CLASS         | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|---------------|---|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------|-------------|----|
|               |   |                 |            |                            |               |          | YES         | NO |
| <del>AE</del> | A | JPH01-22490A    | 01/25/1989 | JAPAN (English Abstract)   | B23K<br>26/02 | —        |             | X  |
| ↓             | B | JPH03-165989    | 07/17/1991 | JAPAN (English Abstract)   | B23K<br>26/04 | —        |             | X  |
| AE            | C | DE4217292A1     | 12/02/1993 | GERMANY (English Abstract) | B23K<br>26/04 | —        |             | X  |
|               |   |                 |            |                            |               |          |             |    |
|               |   |                 |            |                            |               |          |             |    |

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER | M. Alexandra Elve | 7/1/05 | DATE CONSIDERED |
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|----------------------|---|-----------------|------------|--------------------|---------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| AE                   | A | 5,192,848       | 03/09/1993 | MIYAKAWA ET AL.    | 219     | 121.82   | 10/31/1991                          |
|                      | B | 5,196,672       | 03/23/1993 | M. HIDENOBU, ET AL | B23K262 | 00       |                                     |
|                      | C | 4,539,461       | 09/03/1985 | G. BENEDICT ET AL. |         |          |                                     |
|                      | D | 5,500,502       | 03/19/1996 | H. MANABU ET AL.   |         |          |                                     |
| AE                   | E | 5,698,120       | 12/1997    | KUROSAWA ET AL     | 219     | 121.62   |                                     |
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|    |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS    | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES   NO |  |
|----|---|-----------------|------------|---------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--|
| AE | A | EP 0 822 027A   | 2/04/1998  | EUROPE  | C21D1/09 |          | X                       |  |
| AE | B | CA2182927       | 09/02/1998 | CANADA  | A1       |          | X                       |  |
|    | C |                 |            |         |          |          |                         |  |
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|----------------------|---|-----------------|---------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| AE                   | F | 5,530,221       | 06/1996 | BENDA, ET AL.   | 219   | 121.83   |                                     |
| AE                   | G | 5,463,202       | 10/1995 | KUROSAWA ET AL. | 219   | 121.83   |                                     |
|                      | H |                 |         |                 |       |          |                                     |
|                      | D |                 |         |                 |       |          |                                     |
|                      | E |                 |         |                 |       |          |                                     |
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